

**Council on Postsecondary Education
September 16, 2001**

Executive Summary

2. Are more students enrolling?
3. Are more students advancing through the system?

We have two action items pertaining to these questions for your consideration.

At the July meeting, you asked the institutions to reconsider their enrollment, retention, and graduation rate projections through 2006. They have done so and we bring new projections to you. These individual institutional projections are on target to meet long-range systemwide goals.

We are particularly pleased that several institutions and the KCTCS are exceeding their enrollment projections. Early reports indicate strong enrollment growth this fall at Morehead, Western, Northern, and Lexington Community College, along with the KCTCS.

We now think that with steady but moderate increases in funding, Kentucky's colleges and universities can achieve the goal of enrolling 80,000 more undergraduates before the year 2020. We think we can enroll 77,000 of the 80,000 by 2015. But 80,000 more undergraduates will only get us to the national average as it was in 1999. The council might wish to revise its long-

range enrollment growth schedule once official numbers for this fall are in hand.

The staff recommends that the council approve the 2002-06 public institution goals for enrollment, transfers, retention, and graduation. (For details, see page 69.)

At its May meeting, the council denied a request from Morehead State University for a waiver of penalties that result from its not meeting its equal educational opportunity goals. Morehead has been hard at work since then and appeared before the Committee on Equal Opportunities August 20 to ask for reconsideration.

The staff recommends that the council accept the Committee on Equal Opportunities recommendation to grant Morehead State University a waiver of the requirements of KRS 164.020(18). (For details, see page 79.)

The Kentucky Virtual University is off to a strong start this fall, with unduplicated headcount of 4,807 and total class enrollments of 6,387. The KYVU now offers a total of 545 courses. The staff is negotiating new contracts for the electronic databases provided through the virtual library. We think that the KYVL's services will be increased as a result of these negotiations. The monthly number of library transactions through the KYVL remains steady at about 600,000 per month (that averages 20,000 per day and more than 800 per hour).

To meet Kentucky's demand that currently exceeds capacity in the Morehead State University and Sullivan University on-line MBA programs offered through the KYVU, the KYVU will offer an additional fully accredited master's degree in business administration, beginning in the spring semester of this year. MBA

courses will originate at the University of Maryland-Baltimore, which will confer the degree. Kentucky students will pay Maryland in-state tuition rates. The university has extensive experience with its on-line MBA, which is one of the few such programs that is fully accredited by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business. This will be a good test of the Kentucky market for large-scale, applied graduate education on-line. The council and the KYVU incurred no financial obligations in making the program available, except for provision of the distance learning network.